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1995 - TOYOTA 4 RUNNER SR-5 - local trade.



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only 14,000 miles, leather interior

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2000 FORD ESCORT only 24,000 miles - \$145 mo.



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1994 FORD F-150 SUPER CAB selling for only \$8,495



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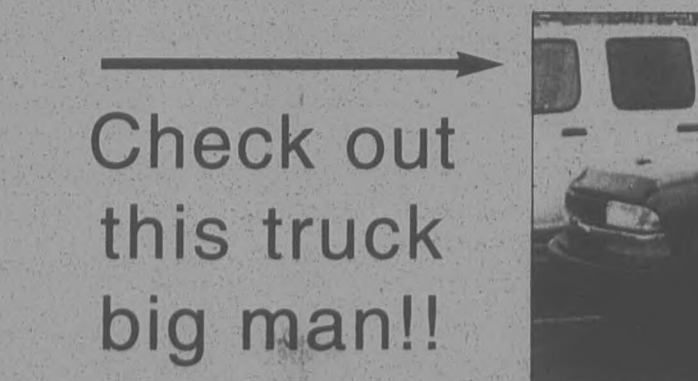
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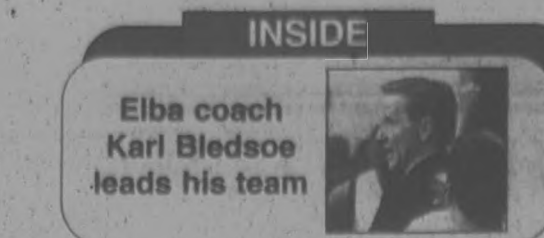
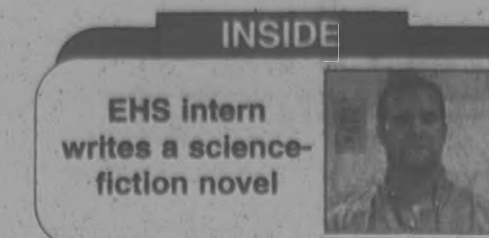
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The Elba Clipper

Volume 105, Number 35

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, February 14, 2002

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert



TUESDAY AFTERNOON WRECK SENDS TWO TO THE HOSPITAL... The driver and passenger of a vehicle that overturned on Coffee County Road 513 (a dirt road) just outside the Elba City Limits Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 12, were transported to the Elba General Hospital by Coffee County EMS. The one-vehicle accident occurred around 4 p.m., and officials said the driver, Gary Parker of Elba, indicated that he lost control of the 1992 Pontiac Grand Am after a dog ran in front of him. The vehicle left the roadway and hit a storage building as it flipped. Tony Parker, also of Elba, was the only other person in the vehicle. The extent of the injuries to the driver and passenger were not known at press time. Responding to the accident were units from the Elba Fire Department, Coffee County Sheriff's Department and Coffee County EMS. Also responding was Alabama State Trooper Willie White who investigated the incident.

Commission thanks Sen. Holley and Rep. Spicer

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Commission began its regular monthly meeting Monday morning, Feb. 11, with a special presentation honoring Senator Jimmy Holley and Representative Terry Spicer.

During the previous meeting of the commission, it was decided that the commission would publicly thank the senator and representative for all the work they have done for Coffee County over the past year.

Monday morning, Holley and Spicer were present to receive this thanks.

"We're working together as a team," Spicer said. "It is a pleasure to serve Coffee County in Montgomery, and we appreciate you taking time out of your schedule to thank us."

Holley too said it is a pleasure to partner with the county, and he commended the commission, highway department and county administrator for the work they do as well.

County Extension Coordinator Sandra Coffey addressed the commission and offered a challenge to the group of elected officials.

"I'm going to issue a challenge to not only our commission but also to Sen. Holley and Rep. Spicer," she said. "I am here today not only to ask you to endorse our health initiative but also to participate."

She said the health initiative is organized to help people lose weight while increasing their exercise habits, and the initiative will go hand-in-hand with the Walk Alabama campaign.

Beginning in March, Coffey said teams of eight people will be challenged to walk up to 850 miles. She said the initiative of the extension office is to get

people walking, moving, losing weight and feeling better.

"I believe our county constituency will not only look better and feel better, but they will be happier," she said. "We want to get as many people as possible in Coffee County involved."

Coffey said a kickoff challenge will be held March 11 at the Farm Center in New Brockton for the health initiative and Walk Alabama.

While speaking to the commissioners, Coffey also took the opportunity to introduce Christina Kirkland, the newest county extension agent. She said Kirkland will be working with nutrition education in the county, and her pay is federally funded with the county bearing no cost.

Next on the agenda to speak to the commission was county emergency management director John Tallas.

Tallas proposed the adoption of a resolution by the commission in regards to severe weather week.

The resolution read as follows: The Coffee County Commission joins Governor Don Siegelman in declaring February 18th through 22nd, 2002, as Severe Weather Awareness Week. We encourage all County residents to take this opportunity to increase their awareness of severe weather and its consequences. Moreover, we want our citizens to be prepared for the possibility of severe weather by having disaster plans and disaster kits prepared. As part of the Severe Weather Awareness Week, the County will participate in a statewide tornado drill on Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2002, weather permitting. The Commission encourages our citizens and particularly our school

systems to test their severe weather plan during the drill. Our County Emergency Management Agency stands ready to assist you in all aspects

Please See CCC, Page 3

Students take advantage of Coffee County's SAFE School

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County School System embarked on a new adventure at the beginning of 2002, and thus far it has proven to be a success beyond anyone's imagination.

SAFE (Supporting Alternatives for Education) School opened its doors at the Coffee County Board of Education on Monday, Jan. 7, and Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram said she was thrilled to have students taking advantage of the program.

"On that first night, we had more than we ever dreamed of," Ingram said. "I am very pleased the students and parents took advantage of the opportunity."

She said the application for the grant was written during the 1999-2000 school year, and the money came from the Children's First Tobacco Settlement. When County received \$50,000 to be used over an extended amount of time, Ingram said the grant was applied for again this year, and the school system received an additional \$26,000.

The basic ideas behind SAFE school are: 1) Provide remediation for students who have failed a core course or the graduation exam; 2) Provide a flexible schedule that allows alternative placement for students seeking training during the day; and 3) Provide an alternative discipline setting and an opportunity for students with excessive absences to make-up their work.

"So far we have used SAFE School for make-up work and as a discipline setting," Ingram

During Coffee County BOE meeting

Status of Zion Chapel ball field project addressed

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram updated board members on the construction of the Zion Chapel ball fields. Thursday evening, Feb. 7, during the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the board.

"I would like to explain about the status for the construction of the ball fields at Zion Chapel," Ingram said. "This is a project that has been going on for seven

years."

She said the project began after the Coffee County Commission cleared the old pond site at the school system to allow an investigation into the possibility of building a ball field. Although the site had numerous springs and was very deep, she said the help of the county commission, especially Commissioner Linda Ingram said, "This is a project that has been going on for seven

years."

She said she expects the work to be completed and available for use by next school year. Also she said the facilities will include a press box with restrooms.

"I appreciate all of the help that the parents, community members, legislators, commissioners and other have given so that the children would have a facility," said Ingram.

Another update provided to the board by Ingram included that of news surrounding various grants approved for the school system.

She said the school system has received a \$100,000 grant that will be used for improvements including correcting the sewage problem at Zion Chapel and updating the wiring at

the school system.

Ingram said Ricky Mularz, Elba Parks/Recreation Director, has helped with the issuance of specs for fencing, and she said specs for poles and lighting will also be sent out.

Also, she said the funds for the project are available to continue once the above mentioned troubles have been corrected. She again thanked the county

commission, Sen. Holley and Rep. Spicer for their help in getting the funds for the ball fields.

"I know that many in the community are disappointed that the project was not completed in time for ball season this year," said Ingram. "After careful consideration, I was advised that the time from availability of funds to the playing dates was too short to complete the fields so that they would be done correctly and safely."

She said that she expects the work to be completed and available for use by next school year.

Also she said the facilities will include a press box with restrooms.

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SCHOOLS

New gardening tradition exhibit tours the state

A new exhibit from the Alabama Center for traditional culture examines the gardening and yard decoration traditions in the state. "In the Garden: Traditional Culture and Horticulture in Alabama" will tour schools, museums and libraries across the state during 2002 and 2003.

To produce the exhibit folklorist Anne Kimzey traveled around the state interviewing gardeners and photographing their gardens, plants, yard art and traditional landscapes. The free-standing display sits on a tabletop and includes 43 color images and text. These represent only a sample of the diverse gardening traditions in the state.

"A garden is the artistic creation of an individual gardener," said Kimzey. "But a gardener often represents a community aesthetic as well as his or her own."

She explained that gardens themselves may be an ephemeral art form, but many of the traditional preferences, beliefs and practices associated with gardening endure.

Included in the exhibit are topics such as: vegetable gardening, flower gardening, native plants, herb gardens and medicinal uses of plants, religious landscapes, pest control (scarecrows, gourd martin houses, repellent plants, commercial insecticide), structures (grape arbor, bean poles), a garden cloth's butterfly garden, Easter egg trees, Christmas yard decorations, a church flower guild's Easter arrangements, hay bale sculpture, whitewashed tree trunks, swept yard, traditional cemetery, flower competition, produce at the curb market, and gardens of Cambodian immigrants featuring southeast Asian plants.

The project was produced by the Alabama Center for Traditional Culture with support from the National Endowment for the Arts' Heritage and Preservation Program, the Alabama Folklife Association and the Alabama State Council on the Arts.

The exhibit is available for bookings. For more information contact the Alabama Center for Traditional Culture (334) 242-4076, or HYPERLINK "mailto:anne@arts.state.al.us" anne@arts.state.al.us.

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AND LOCAL
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Tiger Tales

Editor:
Katie Grimes

EHS Faculty Spotlight

by Amanda Spicer

This week's EHS Faculty Spotlight is focused on Amelia Rhoades.

Mrs. Rhoades teaches 7th and 10th grade English, and she has been teaching at Elba for a year.

Mrs. Rhoades attended Kinston High School and then attended Troy State University. Her past teaching experience includes 30 years spent at Kinston High School.

Mrs. Rhoades is married to Harold Rhoades, and she has two daughters, Suzanne and Tiffany, and one son, Eric. Her hobbies include water skiing and flower gardening.

Mrs. Rhoades is a member of Ino Baptist Church. She won the Volleyball State 1A championship in 1997, received the State Volleyball Coach of the Year award in 1997 (1A-6A), and she is the varsity softball and volleyball coach at EHS.

Mrs. Rhoades was inspired to become a teacher by her desire to love and help other people as well as by one of her high school teachers. If she could no longer teach, she would want to be an interior decorator.

Amelia Rhoades

Amelia Rhoades

EHS welcomes newly published author as intern

Jason Woodham, a 23-year-old intern for Mrs. Rhoades and Coach Waters at EHS, is the author of the newly published science-fiction book *What Warriors Will Stand*.

Woodham began writing his book in the summer of 1996, but production was stalled by his entrance into college. In May of 1999, Woodham restarted work on the book and completed it in April 2000. He was offered a publishing contract by Lee Shore Agency in June 2001, but he decided to sign with local Ann Varnum's publishing company.

When asked if he had always been interested in writing,

Woodham said, "Not really. I didn't like to read or write when I was in high school, but my attitude changed for some unknown reason. I wrote this book for people who don't like to read. The action never slows down."

If Woodham had the opportunity to choose one person (dead or alive) to read his book, he would choose his great-grandmother "because she wanted to read it, but she passed away this past August. She never got to see the finished version."

If you are interested in obtaining a copy of *What Warriors Will Stand*, it will be available in Books-A-Million stores sometime in April.



Jason Woodham

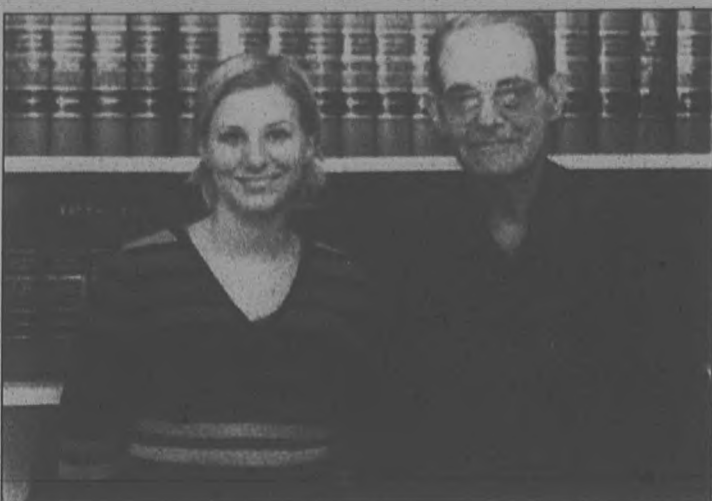
Elba COC helps employees see their shadows

by Jonathan Head

On Friday, Feb. 1, 66 Elba High School students participated in what was the fifth consecutive year of the Groundhog Day Shadowing Program.

Scholars from Elba, Enterprise, New Brockton, and additional district environs spent the duration of their day "shadowing" or monitoring the actions of specific individuals who lie in the path of particular career fields of interest. Through this evaluation, the program wished to shed a sense of understanding upon each student's tedious inquiries in order to aid his or her further judgment in where future job opportunities lie.

The opportunity of weighing differential aspects of occupational quality would not have been possible for Elba undergraduates if it were not for the tireless efforts of event coordinators Donald Lawford of Elba High School and Kaye Whitworth of the Elba Chamber of Commerce. Thanks to the diligence of the coordinators and the sponsorship of McArthur State Technical College, education and industry will continue to merge to preserve the hopes and dreams of future generations.



EHS student Courtney Pelham shadowed Stokes & Morrow, Attorneys at Law through the Groundhog Day Shadowing Program sponsored by Tech Prep Program at McArthur State Technical College. Pictured (L-R) Courtney Pelham and Jackson W. Stokes.

EES Faculty Spotlight

by Hunter Branch

The teacher in this week's EES Spotlight is Mrs. Candace Vaughn. Mrs. Vaughn teaches kindergarten.

Mrs. Vaughn graduated from Lanier High School in Montgomery and then attended Auburn University and majored in early childhood education. Mrs. Vaughn has taught second grade five and a half years, first grade for two years, remediation class for three years and kindergarten for 15 years.

Mrs. Vaughn formerly taught in Montgomery County for five and a half years, while her stint at the Elba City Schools has lasted 19 years.

Mrs. Vaughn's hobbies include traveling and working in the yard. She is married to



Candace Vaughn

Mark Vaughn and they have two daughters. Being the oldest of six children inspired Mrs. Vaughn to become a teacher, and if she could no longer teach, she would simply retire.

Congratulations to Mrs. Candace Vaughn for being in this week's EES Spotlight.

Co-Op Spotlight

by Charly Barlow



This week's Co-Op Spotlight focuses on Atonya Parish. Atonya is a senior at Elba High School, and the 19-year-old daughter of Olean Parish. She is employed at Enterprise hospital where she is a secretary. Atonya's hobbies include playing softball and talking on the phone. After graduation she plans on going to college to pursue a degree in nursing.

EES Menu

Feb. 18 - 22, 2002

BREAKFAST

Monday - President's Day Holiday
Tuesday - Pancakes & Syrup, Cereal, Juice, Milk
Wednesday - Biscuits & Jelly, Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Milk
Thursday - Breakfast Pizza, Trail Mix, Cereal, Juice, Milk
Friday - Cheese Grits, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk

LUNCH

Monday - President's Day Holiday
Tuesday - Pizza, Broccoli w/ Cheese, Corn, Applesauce, Milk
Wednesday - Chicken Fillet Sandwich, Green Beans, Potato Rounds, 1/2 Apple, Milk
Thursday - Chili w/ Beans, Cheese Sandwich, Mixed Vegetables, Crackers, 1/2 Orange, Milk
Friday - Hoagie, Lettuce, Tomato, Dill Pickles, French Fries, Coodle, Milk



The Elba High School Chorus will perform during the upcoming Black History Month program at the school on Tuesday, Feb. 19, at 9:45 a.m. The guest speaker will be Gregory Calhoun. The theme for the program will be "Celebrating a Rich Heritage." Some members of the school chorus are pictured above: (kneeling) Stacey Mitchell and Nicholas Nelson; (standing) Tamara Oliver and Jonathan Lockett.

**Support the Elba Tigers
this and every week!!!**

SCHOOLS



Zion Chapel
High School
**REBEL
NEWS**
Rachel Bryan, Sponsor

FFA having a busy year

by Sam Wambles and
Jessica Flowers

The Zion Chapel FFA Chapter has had a busy year. They have been involved in several activities. Some of those activities include having a peanut boil, attending the

Development Leadership Conference. Officers passed out information for the fruit sales. The members decided that "Where it all Began, FFA Makes it Real" would be the theme for the Peanut Festival Exhibit.

On November 8, 2001, members turned in fruit sale orders at the beginning of the meeting. The guest speaker was Mr. Mike Cox, a local game warden. Mr. Cox talked about new laws and hunting safety. In December the chapter awarded savings bonds to the top three fruit salespersons. Plans for FFA Week to be held February 18-22, 2002, were made. Officers discussed FFA scholarships and State degrees. On January 10, 2002, members signed up for county contests. FFA Week activities were discussed, and members were asked to help Ashley Green, FFA State Reporter, was the guest speaker.

In conclusion, the Zion Chapel FFA Chapter has many more activities to complete including FFA Week and the annual State Convention. They look to have as much fun during these activities as they did on the previous ones.

The members of the Senior Level Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) have coincided with the activities of the Middle Level Chapter.

The members of the Senior Level participated in the A+ Sales fund-raising activity and members attended the Joint Development Leadership Conference in Birmingham. A joint Middle Level-Senior Level meeting was held when Mrs. Brenda Danner, a local entrepreneur, was the guest speaker.



JR. BETA CLUB—DJ Stinson has been at the helm of a slate of officers that have led the members of the Junior Beta Club through the year's activities. The officers are Vice President Lashonda Cole, Secretary Shea Manning and Treasurer Adam Carter. The activities of the year, which began with selling gourmet suckers, will end with a trip to the Wild Adventures Theme Park in Valdosta, Georgia, in May. In addition to the gourmet suckers, the club sold Zion Chapel stadium blankets and took \$1 donations on a hunt to raise money for their activities. Thirty-six new members will be initiated into the club. All new members have to earn an overall 85 average. The Junior Beta sponsor is Mrs. Debra Henson. Pictured from left to right is: (seated) Adam Carter, Shea Manning, DJ Stinson and Lashonda Cole; (standing) Byron McWaters, Chris Fuller and Audrianna Mills.

Enterprise State offers classes

***ESJC's special interest workshop, Microsoft Excel, will teach you to turn your computer into an electronic calculator. You'll learn the fundamentals of spreadsheets by creating simple inventory or payroll reports. Prior experience using a computer would be helpful. You must bring a 3 1/2" disk. There is a \$35.00 fee for the workshop, and the registration deadline is March 5. The workshop is scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday, March 12-14, 6:00-8:00 p.m. For more information, call 334-393-ESJC, ext. 234.

***How to Use the Internet is a special interest course being offered at ESJC this spring semester. This course will provide some quick tips on how to surf the World Wide Web. It is designed for students who have had no experience using the Internet. The course is scheduled for Saturday, March 9, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. There is a \$35.00 fee for this course, and the registration deadline is March 4. For more information, call 334-393-ESJC, ext. 234.

***ESJC's Personal Computer Use Made Easy—Level III—offers an opportunity

for participants to improve computer usage proficiency and to gain experience using Microsoft Works software. Successful completion of Personal Computer Use Made Easy—Level II is recommended but not required. A 3 1/2" diskette is required for the first class. There is a \$40.00 fee for this course, and the registration deadline is February 25. Class meets Mondays and Tuesdays, March 4-12, 5:30-7:30 p.m. For more information call 393-ESJC, ext. 234.

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Middle level FBLA annual fundraiser deemed successful

Membership recruitment for Middle Level Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) was the first order of business for the year. When the recruitment activities were over, twenty-eight members had signed up for membership. These twenty-eight members were ready for business.

Mrs. Rita Johnston, a sales representative from A+ Sales, kicked off the annual fund-raiser with a sales training period that resulted in motivation at a high level. Middle Level members sold over \$2500 in small gift items and candy. Approximately 40% of this amount was profit. Jennie Wilkerson was the top salesperson and will be awarded a \$50 cash prize at the "Rewards" party where pizza will be served.

Members attended the Joint Development Leadership Conference in November in Birmingham. This was a long school bus ride but the meetings were informative for all members and several of the members got to meet members of the Dallas Cowboy Cheerleader squad who were also at the Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center on the same day. These members got autographs, had their pictures made with the cheerleaders, and were given autographed pictures of the cheerleaders.

The baked goods were sold and the baskets were given to teachers whose names were drawn "out of the hat."

In January plans were finalized for attending the FBLA South Region Meeting and Competition to be held on March 9, 2002, in Greenville, DJ Stinson and Chris Fuller will present a PowerPoint Presentation that they have created. Donna Flowers, Keri



MIDDLE LEVEL FBLA OFFICERS...Left to right: (seated) Keri Hobbs, Abe Childs, D.J. Stinson and Haley Wambles; (standing) Byron McWaters, Melanie Perry, Shea Manning, Heather Sanders, Christina McWaters, Ken Flowers and Lara Lee Beasley.

Flowers, and Lara Lee Beasley will compete in the FBLA Challenge which is a kind of "Battle of the Chapters" that is conducted by answering questions about FBLA and its programs and its activities. Lindsay Leverett, Rosanna Johnson, Christina McWaters, Lashonda Cole, and Shawn Ellis will present an original officer installation ceremony.

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Senior FBLA members preparing for National Fall Leadership Conference

Several Senior Level members ordered FBLA t-shirts from her. In November seventeen members of the Senior Level Chapter attended the FBLA National Fall Leadership Conference in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Presently, Senior Level members are preparing to attend the FBLA South Region Meeting and Competition. Approximately two dozen members will compete in the competition.



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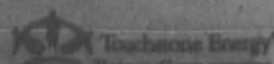
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Girl Scout Career Day held February 9

Girl Scout Career Day Saturday, February 9, 2002 was an incredible day for the Brownie and Junior Girl Scouts of Coffee County. Girl Scout Group 296 of Elba hosted a Career Day from 10:00 to 1:00. Over 100 girls from 8 different troops attended.

Mrs. Henrietta Grimes, Assistant Vice-President/Cashier of The People's Bank and Elba's Mayor's wife gave the opening welcome. Guest speakers included Mrs. Colleen Gordon, Assistant to the Enterprise City Schools Superintendent; CW2 Warrant Officer Stephanie Truax, instructor pilot from Ft. Rucker; Mrs. Angela Hope, Director of Membership and Marketing for the Wiregrass Girl Scouts and Mrs. Toni Dewberry, a paralegal from Enterprise. Group leader Mrs. Rachel Baxter and

Membership Specialist Mrs. Alicia Caldwell, led the activities. The speakers gave the girls insights into their careers along with encouragement such as, choose a job that you enjoy, not for money first, set your goals, work hard, and you can accomplish it. Activities included learning to read the classifieds, going on a job interview, seeing that work can be fun and funny sometimes, and thinking on your feet. Warrant Officer Truax

taught the girls a special lesson on "thinking on your feet" what to do if your helicopter catches on fire! The girls of Group 296 introduced all the speakers and provided lunch to all who attended.



Directors of the National Security Group declare quarterly dividend

The Board of Directors of The National Security Group, Inc., declared a quarterly dividend of \$20 per share at its meeting on January 19, 2002. This represents an annual indicated dividend rate of \$80 per share. This cash dividend is payable on February 28, 2002 to shareholders of record February 4, 2002.

County Bee Keeping Club to meet on second Thursdays

The Coffee County Bee Keeping Club meets on the second Thursday night of each month starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room at the Farm Center in New Brockton. The sponsor of this club is Richard and Linda Steele. You may call them for more information at 393-1924. The next meeting will be held on February 14, 2002. The speaker will be Randy Harmon the State Bee Inspector. This should be an excellent meeting.

Shawn Wilkins receives honors at U of So AL

Among the students that received academic honors from the University of South Alabama was Shawn Linton Wilkins of Elba.

MacArthur State to offer AARP 55 Alive Mature Driving Course in Elba

MacArthur State To Offer AARP 55 ALIVE Mature Driving Course at Elba Public Library. MacArthur State Technical College's Workforce Development and Continuing

Education Program will offer an AARP 55 ALIVE Mature Driving Course on Tuesday, February 19, 2002 and Wednesday, February 20, 2002 from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. each day.

Developed by the American Association for Retirees (AARP), this program helps mature drivers, age 50 and older, to refine existing skills and develop safe, defensive driving techniques. This course deals with the physical problems of aging and how to adapt as well as recognize these changes as they relate to driving.

As a BONUS for taking the course, participants are eligible for automobile insurance discounts. Alabama is among the list of states offering mandatory insurance discounts for completing an approved driver improvement (defensive driving) course. Interested participants should check with their insurance agent concerning a discount for taking the course.

The two half-day sessions will be held at the Elba Public Library located at 408 Simmons Street. Participants are required to attend both days to receive a certificate of completion. Cost per individual to take the class is \$10.00, payable to AARP. Payment will be due at the first class meeting.

Participants must be age 50 or older. To sign up for the course or to receive more information, please contact MacArthur's Workforce Development and Continuing Education Program at (334) 493-3573, ext. 244.

February is Severe Weather Preparedness Week in Alabama

Governor Don Siegelman has proclaimed February 18-22, 2002 as Severe Weather Preparedness Week in Alabama. Alabama is one of the hardest hit states in the nation by severe weather. Each year we face the hardship caused by severe weather.

Semi-Pro Baseball tryouts to be held in Enterprise Feb. 16

Enterprise Semi-Pro Baseball Team tryouts will be held at Peavy's Ball Park on Saturday, February 16, 2002 at 1:00 p.m. For more information contact Joe Jackson at 347-4275.

From Seeds of Sorrow Grow Flowers of Hope.

If you've lost a loved one to cancer, please consider a memorial donation and help us fight this terrible disease.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

BOE

(Continued from Page One)

Kinston.

A \$35,000 grant has been awarded to the system to upgrade technology. This infrastructure grant will allow for the purchase of file servers and electronic but no computers can be purchased with the money.

Also, Ingram told board members that she has just learned that the Coffee County School System was awarded a \$125,000 WIA (Workforce Investment Act) Remediation Grant that will help at-risk students.

She said the school system was only one of 32 funded with this grant and lacked only a small percentage from being the number two funded program in the state.

"We are really proud to get this grant," she said.

During the meeting, the board members attended to several personnel matters which included:

Professional - 1) Permission to advertise for a high school social studies teacher to fill the vacancy at New Brockton High School. A long-term substitute will be used until the vacancy is filled. 2) Voluntary transfer of Charles Edwards from his present position as P.E. and health teacher at Zion Chapel Schools to a position at Kinston Schools effective the beginning of the 2002-2003 school year. 3) Voluntary transfer of Sandra Skinner from her present position as P.E. teacher at Kinston Schools to a position at Zion Chapel Schools effective the beginning of the 2002-2003 school year.

Support - 1) Accepted the resignation of Donna Davis as a board member. 2) Accepted the resignation of Charlotte Windom as secretary of New Brockton Elementary School as of Jan. 24, 2002. 3) Extended the contract of Lula Haynes from part-

time to full-time to work the WIA Remediation Grant. 4) Accepted the resignation of Max Downing, maintenance worker at New Brockton Schools, effective Feb. 7, 2002. 5) Approved advertising for all vacant positions created by the above actions. 7) Approved advertising for positions that need to be filled by the WIA grant.

In other action, the board: * Awarded technology bids to High Tech Computer Systems, Inc. This company provided the low bid for the technology bids, and technology coordinator Golda Donaldson said all recommendations for the company were good.

* Received a copy of the report and the city hopes to update the system from the state board of education. All schools received a clear in the academic status category.

Notice:

SouthTrust Bank will sponsor a Boston Butt Sale on Saturday, Feb. 23.

The cost will be \$15 each, and the boston butts can be picked up behind the bank between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on the 23rd. See any employee to purchase a ticket.

The proceeds will benefit the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

Remember Those You Loved With A Memorial Gift

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1 AC +/- Lot • Hwy. 189 \$4,500

2454 County Road 306 - 1 AC +/- • 2 BR - 1 Bath • Pecan Trees, Pear Trees - This is a SWEET Country Home - perfect for retirement. Nice Garden Spot. \$33,900

County Road 401 & 410 • 3,135 sq. ft. +/- • 6 BR, 4 Baths \$129,000

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SPORTS

Views from....

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Well, Melanie turned thirteen last Monday and on Saturday night had her first date and she went to a formal dance at Elba High School. The girls in the Mularz house don't really date until they turn sixteen, but since she had gone to the beauty shop and had on a formal gown, I guess Saturday night's dance might qualify. Now if we can only last three more years before the next one!

DUSTING OFF THE DESK....

*** The high school basketball season came to an unexpected end for both the Elba Tigers and Elba Lady Tigers last week when the teams were eliminated in opening round action in the Class 3A, Area 2 tournaments.

The Tigers carried a 16-4 record into their opener against Pike County and were coming off a big win over highly-ranked G.W. Long, but the Tigers never really settled into their style of play due to the physical play of Pike County, and their season ended for the second straight year at the hands of the Bulldogs. Elba had hoped to advance to sub-region play and possibly make a return trip to the regional at Troy State after posting one of its best records in years. However, the Tigers once again came up one win short, and will have to be satisfied with knowing that they did put Elba back on the map in high school basketball. Elba will lose senior starters John Mitchell and Abia Williams, but will return starters Kyle English, Marcus Henderson and Tim Andrews, and should be ready to make another run at a title next season. Coach Karl Bledsoe has been at the Elba helm for two years now, and with his system soundly in place, all Tiger fans believe the best is yet to come.

The Lady Tigers took a 14-6 record into their opening round clash with Calhoun and were confident after posting two wins over Calhoun during the regular season, only to lose by two points and fail to make a sub-region appearance for the first time in three years. The Lady Tigers played hard from the opening whistle until the final horn and had to scratch and claw their way up and down the court against a very aggressive Calhoun defense, but still had the chance to pull out the win late after a gallant fourth quarter rally. The Lady Tigers lost two starters in seniors Rachel Bludworth and Kerri Lawford, but have some quality players back in guards Ayonna Proctor and Lagina Mack, as well as 6' Latoya Tyson, who joined the team late and improved nightly. If Coach Leroy Carney can find some players to step up, the Elba Lady Tigers should be more than ready for yet another big season on the court.

*** The area tournaments weren't kind for the teams in the area as well as the Kinston Bulldogs. Kinston Lady Bulldogs and Brantley Lady Bulldogs were able to survive their opening round games. The Kinston boys cruised past Zion Chapel in a big win and are hoping to bounce back after a late-season slump, while the Kinston girls whipped Arton for the fourth time this season and are now entering uncharted territory. Brantley's girls made the headlines with an upset win over ninth-ranked Pleasant Home, and the Lady Bulldogs fans are hoping the girls can erase the disappointments of years past with a late-season surge. In other boys action, New Brockton and Elba Chapel saw their disappointing seasons come to a merciful end, while Brantley was upset in its area opener and once again fell far short of its goals. Over in girls play, New Brockton lost for Samson for the third time this season and ended its season earlier than expected. Zion Chapel was forced to forfeit its final game after not having enough healthy players to dress out in the tournament. The Lady Rebels played many games with only five players late in the season, and after having to forfeit its area tournament opener, maybe it is time to reevaluate the program up at Zion Chapel.

*** The youth basketball season will wind down this weekend, and it has been one of the busiest seasons ever for the young boys and girls here in Elba. The leagues played anywhere from 10 to 14 games a week, and for the first time ever made weekly trips to Opp to help support the Opp program. Basketball is alive and well for the youth of Elba, and the youth leagues are proud to share in the success of the junior high and high school teams. Elba will have four All-Star teams entered in A.R.P.A. tournament play in early March, with three teams in boys play and one in girls action. Tournament brackets will be drawn up later, but I urge all Elba fans to come out and watch these youngsters in action. They deserve it, and are the future of the sport in Elba for years to come.

*** In closing, I have to give a big pat on the back to the Elba basketball fans that supported the Tigers and Lady Tigers all season long. The Elba fans have more people in the bleachers than the home team for many road games, and at last week's tournament games almost filled up their section as they cheered on their teams. The support of the teams plays a big role in the success of the program, and it has to make the players and coaches proud to see such fantastic support wherever they play. Great job Tiger fans, you are #1 and let everyone all across the state know that in Elba the fans are proud to wear the black and gold and support Elba High in everything it does...on and off the field of competition.

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Fall to Pike County 66-59

Tigers ousted early in area tournament

The Elba Tigers saw their season come to an abrupt end Saturday night in the opening round of the Class 3A, Area 2 basketball tournament when they were defeated by the Pike County Bulldogs 66-59 in Calhoun.

The loss left the Tigers with a final record of 16-5, while Pike County upped its record to 10-12 with the win and advanced to the area finals.

The Tigers grabbed a quick 2-0 lead on a lay-up by Marcus Henderson and later led 4-2 on a jumper by Abia Williams, only to see Pike County score six straight points to take an 8-4 lead with 5:12 remaining in the opening stanza.

Elba pulled within 12-10 late in the quarter on a basket by Tim Andrews, but the Bulldogs closed the quarter ahead 14-10, and then scored the first five points of the second quarter to go on top 19-10 with 6:40 left in the half.

Elba picked up the pace on both ends of the court after a time-out and led by the play of Kyle English and John Mitchell went on a 17-4 run to carry a 27-23 lead in at the half.

Kyle English scored seven points during the Tiger rally and almost single-handedly got the Bulldogs in foul trouble by driving to the basket and drawing fouls, while Mitchell, held scoreless in the opening quarter, scored six points in the final three minutes to help the Tigers take charge inside.

Elba's lead grew to 28-23 early in the third quarter on a Kyle English free-throw. However, the Tigers began to have problems with Pike County's aggressive full-court press, and scored only one point for the next four minutes as the Bulldogs erased the Elba lead and regained command at 34-30.

The Tigers cut the lead to 34-32 with 3:27 remaining in the quarter and then had a chance to catch the Bulldogs after a turnover, but Elba's Kyle English was hit in the midsection while attempting to break the Pike County press, and was then ejected from the game after a feeble attempt to swing at the Bulldog player while he was rolling on the court in pain.

The ejection disrupted the Tigers' game plan, and Pike County took advantage of the sudden change in momentum and went on a 10-3 run to take a big

Youth baseball and softball registration to begin Feb. 18

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation will conduct registration for youth baseball and softball on Monday, Feb. 18, through Friday, March 1, for all boys and girls ages 4-18.

The registration fee is \$20 per person, with a \$50 maximum fee for families with multiple children playing. Boys leagues will include Tee-Ball Baseball (ages 4-6), Coach-Pitch Baseball (ages 7-8), Dixie Minor Baseball (ages 9-10), Dixie Youth Baseball (ages 11-12), Dixie Boys Baseball (ages 13-14), Dixie Pre-Majors Baseball (ages 15-16) and Dixie Majors Baseball (ages 17-18). A player's age will be determined by his age on or before July 31, 2002.

Girls leagues will include Tee-Ball Softball (ages 4-6), Coach-Pitch Softball (ages 7-8), Dixie Angels Fast-Pitch Softball (ages 9-10), Dixie Ponytails Fast-Pitch Softball (ages 11-12), Dixie Belles Fast-Pitch Softball (ages 13-15) and Dixie Senior Girls Fast-Pitch Softball (ages 16-18). A player's age will be determined by her age on or before May 31, 2002.

Registration forms will be available at the Elba Elementary School, Elba High School, Elba City Hall and at the Elba Recreation office at 764 North Claxton Avenue. For more information call 897-6833. Coaches are also needed for all teams in both baseball and softball.

Test Your Golf Knowledge....

What year did the first recorded hole in one take place?
Answer: 1868

Who patented the golf tee?
Answer: George Grant

Who always wears a red shirt on tournament Sundays?
Answer: Tiger Woods

How long are you allowed to search for a lost golf ball?
Answer: Five minutes

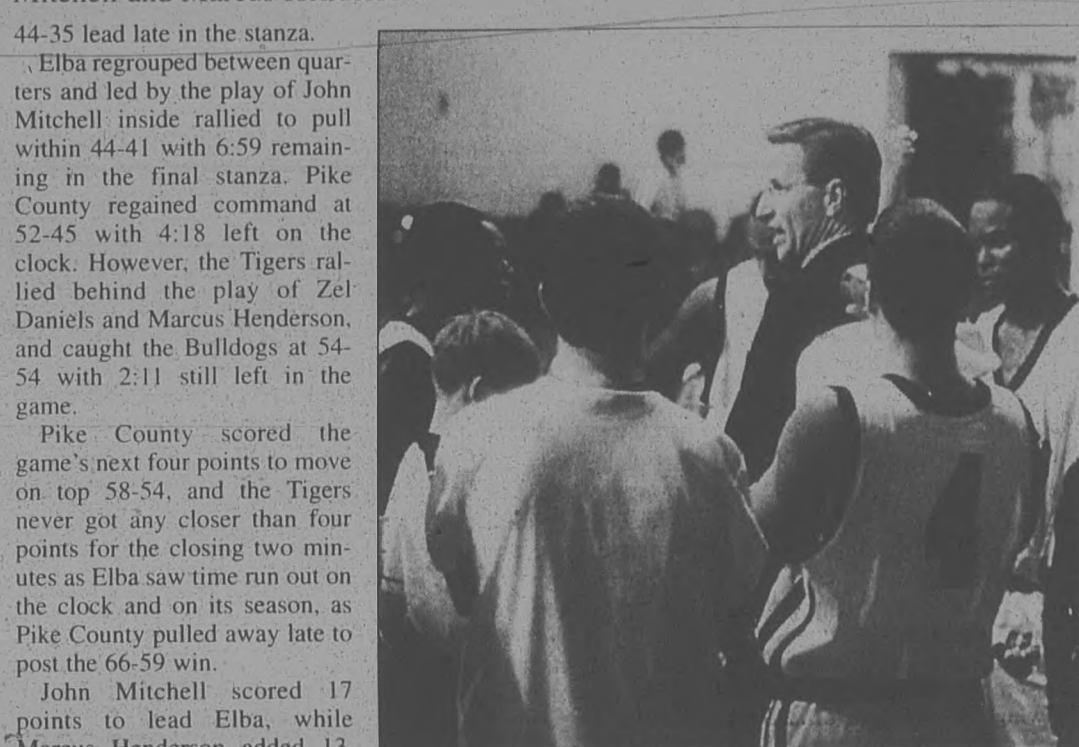
How many calories does a round of golf burn?
Answer: Approximately 450

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TIGER DEFENSE...Elba Tigers play defense in Saturday's area tournament opener against Pike County. Pictured on defense are Kyle English (4), Tim Andrews, John Mitchell and Marcus Henderson.



Elba's Coach Karl Bledsoe talks with his team during a time-out in Saturday night's area opener against Pike County. The Tigers dropped the area contest to close out the season with a 16-5 record.

PC 14 9 21 22 - 66
EL 10 17 10 22 - 59

P.C. (66): Terry 2, Walker 4, N. Walker 22, Nickson 6, McGuire 4, Griffin 19, Copes 9, Williams 3, Daniels 12, Andrews 4, Mitchell 17, Henderson 13.

The win upped the Tigers record to 16-4, while G.W. Long slipped to 17-5 with the loss.

The opening quarter was played at a deliberate pace on both ends of the court, and despite six points from John Mitchell, the Tigers found themselves trailing 12-10 after eight minutes of action.

Mitchell continued to dominate inside in the second quarter as he poured in 11 points, while Kyle English began to heat up from the outside and nailed two long three-pointers to spark a rally that put the Tigers on top 29-26 at intermission.

The Tigers had problems

finding the goal in the third quarter as G.W. Long regained the lead at 40-36. However, John Mitchell took over inside in the final stanza and the Tigers hit on 13 of 15 free-throws in the quarter to pull ahead and hold on for the 63-56 win.

John Mitchell scored 33 points and grabbed 12 rebounds to lead Elba, while Kyle English added 15 points. Marcus Grubbs scored 24 points to lead the Rebels.

E 10 19 7 27 - 63
L 12 14 14 16 - 56

Elba (63): English 15, Gavin 6, Williams 2, Andrews 2, Henderson 5, Mitchell 33.
Long (56): Robinson 3, Grubbs 24, Grubbs 6, Woods 16, Wisham 7.

3 on 3 cage tourney set for Dothan

The tax deductible entry fee is \$75 per team.

For an application or for more information, contact Angie Sherill at 678-9039.

2002 adult volleyball tour planned

"Sports For Youth Foundation inc. is currently accepting applications for the ADULT EURO - VOLLEY - BASH Volleyball Tour to Europe.

Adults 21 and over, who are accomplished volleyball players who want to sight-see, play volleyball and meet new people are encouraged to enroll. Two weeks during the Months of March / April 2002 you could be playing volleyball in London, England; Paris, France; and Venice, and Rome Italy.

For additional information, contact The Sports For Youth Foundation at info@volleyballtours.com Visit the Web site at www.volleyballtours.com

For additional tour information, contact the Sports For Youth office at 425-255-8102.

10 Star basketball camp set for summer

Applications are now being evaluated for the "Ten Star" All-Star Summer Basketball Camps. The camps are by invitation only, and are open to boys and girls ages 16-19 only. Past camp participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill and Antwan Jamison.

SPORTS

In area tournament opener

Lady Tigers upset by Calhoun 51-49

The Elba Lady Tigers saw a furious fourth quarter rally fall two points short Friday night as they were upset 51-49 by the Calhoun Lady Tigers, in the opening round of the Class 3A, Area 2 basketball tournament in Brundidge.

The loss ended the season for Elba and left the Lady Tigers with a final record of 14-7, while Calhoun upped its record to 11-9 with the win and advanced to the area finals.

The Lady Tigers came out ready to play and jumped out to a quick 5-0 lead behind the inside play of Rachel Bludworth. Calhoun nailed a long three-pointer to get on the scoreboard. However, Elba remained in command and grabbed its biggest lead of the stanza at 10-3 when Kerri Lawford drained a three-pointer from deep in the corner with 4:39 remaining in the quarter.

Elba went over three minutes without scoring as Calhoun rallied to pull even at 10-10 with 1:37 left on the clock, but the Lady Tigers ended their long scoring drought when Rachel Bludworth nailed a 15-footer and carried a 12-10 lead into the second quarter of play.

Calhoun took its first lead of the game at 13-12 with 6:47 remaining in the second quarter, only to see the Lady Tigers rally and move on top 16-13 on a pair of free-throws by Ayonna Proctor and a short jumper by Lagina Mack.

The Lady Tigers had a chance to pull away midway through the quarter, but connected on only one of four free-throw chances, and went in at intermission trailing 21-19.

Calhoun upped its lead to 23-19 early in the third quarter, but

the Elba Lady Tigers pulled ahead early and then pulled away late last Tuesday night to close out the regular season with a 57-32 win over the Kinston Lady Bulldogs in Elba.

The win upped Elba's record to 14-6, while Kinston slipped to 8-16 with the loss.

The two cross-county rivals swapped baskets for much of the opening stanza as Lagina Mack and Ayonna Proctor scored 5 points apiece to lead the Lady Tigers, while Samantha Wambles scored 8 points to spark the Lady Bulldogs.

The Lady Tigers carried a slim 14-11 lead into the second quarter, but then began to pull away as Lagina Mack drained two three-pointers to help Elba pull out to a 27-18 halftime advantage.

Lagina Mack added two

three-pointers of her own in the third quarter as Elba's lead grew to 35-23, while the Lady Tigers blew the game wide open in the final stanza behind the play of Ayonna Proctor and Rachel Bludworth.

Elba's lead grew to 40-23 with 3:23 left in the game, and when Rachel Bludworth drained a three-pointer with 1:39 left, the Lady Tigers had chopped the Calhoun lead to 40-49. Elba regained possession after a missed free-throw with 1:38 remaining, but failed to

take a 40-49 lead with 1:07 left, and when Rachel Bludworth drained a three-pointer with 1:07 left, the Lady Tigers had chopped the Calhoun lead to 40-49. Elba regained possession after a missed free-throw with 1:38 remaining, but failed to

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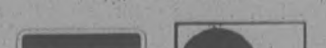
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2 BEDROOM TRAILER FOR RENT. Water & Garbage Included. Located on Hwy. 219 4 or 5 Miles from Elba. Several 3 BR Houses. Available in New Brockton. Call 347-4517 between 8:00 A.M. & 12:00 Noon. 1-14-02

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